

Our Reference: MOR-230-A

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kazuki Kawata, Hatsuo Sato, Shigeta Asai and
Yoshiyuki Sekiya

Serial Number: 10/044,516

Filing Date: January 11, 2002

Examiner/Art Group Unit: Unknown/1742

Title: CARBURIZING METHOD AND
CARBURIZING APPARATUS

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references listed in the attached form PTO-1449 are cited pursuant to Rule 37 C.F.R. 1.56 to meet the duty to disclose to the Patent Office all information known to the inventor, attorney or any other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application or who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

The information may include:

- (1) Prior art which was cited in a search report of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application less than three months ago, and
- (2) The closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of the patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines.

These references constitute all the information of which the individuals pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) are currently aware. These include copies of documentation cited in the International Search Report.

A copy of each cited reference is enclosed, if required.

Respectfully submitted,
YOUNG & BASILE, P.C.



Darlene P. Condra
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 37113
(248) 649-3333

3001 West Big Beaver Rd., Suite 624
Troy, Michigan 48084-3107

Dated: May 15, 2003
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND TRANSMITTAL LETTER

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P. O. Box 1450
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Sir:

Transmitted with this document is a Postcard; Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement; PTO Form 1449; and copies of references cited in the above-identified application.

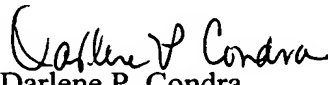
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Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & BASILE, P.C.


Darlene P. Condra
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 37113
(248) 649-3333

3001 West Big Beaver Rd., Suite 624
Troy, Michigan 48084-3107
DPC/dge